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**To:** Rick Chessen  
**Date:** 2/28/03 11 14AM  
**Subject:** Media Ownership Limits

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Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary**ORIGINAL**

Ric

dont know if this is your area, but one thing Im sure that isnt being considered in this area is the impact of HD bandwidth usage on the number of media outlets. Remember, HD requires 19.4mbs, most networks on digital platforms use 2mbs or less.

Unless there is some compression miracle in the next 5 years, when HD takes off like we know it will, there will be FEWER networks on cable and satellite. This will create a game of Survivor for digital networks. As networks convert to HD and absorb what bandwidth there *is*, the number of networks available could drop from the 250 range to under 100. Which of course could mean that the bigger companies, with the ability to get slots will most likely control more of that bandwidth, and we will see a reduction in tv choices, skewing towards larger companies/

So even though there are considerably more outlets for entertainment and news today because of digital tv and the internet, due to the bandwidth required for HD, that paradigm will flip flop and there will be considerably fewer over the next 5 to 7 years, meaning that ownership consolidation could consolidate considerable media power in fewer companies

just a thought

thanks !

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